

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 15-17, and 19-24 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 15 and 21 are amended by the present amendment. Support for the amended claims can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.<sup>1</sup> No new matter is presented.

In the Office Action, 1-4, 15-17 and 19-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Cloutier et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,535,586, herein Cloutier).

In response to the above noted rejection, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent Claims 1, 15 and 21 recite novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by Cloutier.

Independent Claim 1, for example, recites a mail-arrival notification system, comprising:

...a mobile communication terminal configured to ... transmit an acquisition instructing signal and ***a wake-up signal to a remote information processing apparatus...*** and  
said remote information processing apparatus configured to receive said acquisition instructing signal and ***said wake-up signal transmitted from said mobile communication terminal***, to output, in response to receiving said wake-up signal, a wake-up instruction to a power control unit to force the power control unit to supply power to respective circuits of the remote information processing apparatus...

Independent Claims 15 and 21, while directed to alternative embodiments, recite similar features. Accordingly, the remarks and arguments presented below are applicable to each of amended independent Claims 1, 15 and 21.

In a non-limiting embodiment, the remote information processing apparatus 2 may be operating in a sleep mode (i.e., a mode in which some circuits are powered down). If it is determined that the remote information processing apparatus 2 is operating in a sleep mode,

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<sup>1</sup> E.g., specification, Figs. 9-10 and p. 21, l. 5-p. 22, l. 6.

*the mobile communication terminal 3* outputs a wake-up instruction to the remote information processing apparatus, forcing the power control unit 36 of the remote information processing apparatus 2 to start supplying power to respective circuits of the information processing unit.<sup>2</sup>

In rejecting the features recited in previously pending Claim 21 that the receiving unit “output[s] a wake-up instruction to a power control unit to force the power control unit to supply power to respective circuits of the information processing apparatus,” the Office Action concedes that Cloutier fails to teach or suggest the above noted claimed feature, instead relying on Official Notice.

Therefore, Cloutier also fails to teach the more detailed feature of transmitting a wake-up signal from a mobile communication terminal to a remote information processing apparatus, as recited in amended independent Claims 1, 15 and 21. Further, as discussed below, this claimed feature is not obvious in view of Cloutier.

More specifically, the Office Action appears to take the position that the remote information processing apparatus corresponds to the messaging system server 120, and the mobile communication terminal corresponds to the wireless device 170. As described at Fig. 2 and col. 4, l. 40-col. 5, l. 23 of Cloutier, the wireless device 170 receives alerts from the messaging system server 120 that a new message has been received at the remote message server 110. Thus, since the messages and alerts travel downstream from the messaging system server 120 to the wireless device 170, the messaging system server 120 is clearly not in a “sleep” state when interacting with the wireless device 170. Therefore, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Cloutier in a manner such that the wireless device 170 would be configured to transmit a wake-up control signal to remotely control the power supply of the messaging server 120.

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<sup>2</sup> Id.

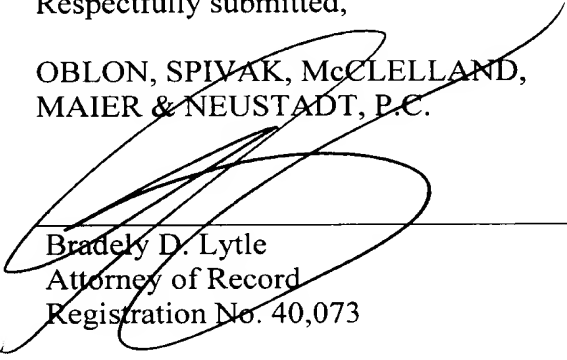
Thus, Cloutier fails to teach or suggest a mail-arrival notification system including “a mobile communication terminal configured to ... transmit an acquisition instructing signal and ***a wake-up signal to a remote information processing apparatus...*** and said remote information processing apparatus configured to receive said acquisition instructing signal and ***said wake-up signal transmitted from said mobile communication terminal***, to output, in response to receiving said wake-up signal, a wake-up instruction to a power control unit to force the power control unit to supply power to respective circuits of the remote information processing apparatus,” along with all the additional limitations recited in amended independent Claim 1.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of independent Claims 1, 15 and 21 (and the claims that depend therefrom) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1-4, 15-17, and 19-24, is patentably distinguishing over the applied references. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore requested

Respectfully submitted,

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